

July 2012

—VOL. 7 NO. 7—



Lt. Gov. Abramson officially opens Veterans Memorial WMA in Scott County

Lieutenant Governor Jerry Abramson joined federal, state and local leaders at a dedication ceremony Monday, July 16, in Scott County to officially open the state's newest wildlife management area.

The 2,500-acre Veterans Memorial Wildlife Management Area, named in honor of veterans, is open to the public for hunting, fishing, hiking, wildlife watching and more. It is owned and managed by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and will offer hunting opportunities for deer, turkeys and small game.

"This land is a unique wildlife area because of its size, location, and convenience to about a third of the state's population," Lt. Gov. Abramson said. "I applaud everyone involved with this project for working together to establish a sustainable wildlife-related area in this part of the Commonwealth."

U.S. Rep. Ben Chandler and Fish and Wildlife Commissioner Jon Gassett joined Abramson for the dedication announcement, along with state legislators Senator Damon Thayer and Mayor Everette Varney.

"Hunting, fishing, and wildlife watch-



American Legion Post 24 members raise the Colors at Veterans Memorial Wildlife Management Area for the first time.

ing are already some of Kentucky's most important industries, and the Veterans Memorial Wildlife Management Area will be an economic boon to both Scott County and the Commonwealth as a whole," Rep. Chandler said. "This beautiful land is a fitting tribute to the veterans to whom it is dedicated, and I look forward to Kentuckians enjoying it for decades."

The Veterans Memorial WMA encompasses nearly 2,500 acres and is accessible by five designated parking areas. The land consists of 74 percent forest area with a small

pond and several small streams. The property has a variety of important habitat types for game species and declining migratory birds, reptiles and amphibians, including hardwood forests, shrub lands and grasslands.

The trails throughout the Veterans Memorial WMA consist of mowed grassy lanes and old farm road paths made by the previous owner.

The Veterans Memorial WMA has been known to locals through the years by

[See "WMA," page 11](#)

INSIDE:



4 Fish
rescue



7 Flash
flood



10 Nature
plates

WE GET MAIL

Letters to the Commissioner's Office

The following letter came from Tim Quinn, President of the Madisonville Noon Kiwanis. He wrote, "The Madisonville Noon Kiwanis, North Hopkins High School Key Club, Hopkins County Bass Club, and our corporate sponsor Wal-Mart hosted our annual "Take A Kid Fishing" event Saturday, June 24 at one of our city park lakes. The attendance was well above average and the weather was good. We had 103 kids register.

We are very appreciative of the help we received in obtaining handout fishing material and the use of 24 rods and reels from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, and **Jeremy Shiflet** and **Rob Rold** who were most accommodating in assisting us with these needs. It certainly helped make our event more informative.

Thank you for the continued help from your department. We wish you well."

The following note came from Francisco Rios to **John Coffey**. Young Francisco wrote, "Thank you for helping me and making the fishing trip possible for me. I had a great time even though my leg was broken. Thanks for making the arrangements for a chair and the golf cart. I had a great time and hope that I can earn all my badges at camp this summer so I can go to the fishing trip or a hunting trip next year." Francisco will attend Camp Wallace in July.

We received this letter from Terry Doyle with the Retired and Senior Volunteer Programs in Trigg County. Mr. Doyle wrote, "On behalf of Pennyryle Allied Services/Retired and Senior Volunteer Program and the City of Cadiz, THANK YOU for your participation and support in the 2012 Trigg County Take Kids Fishing event. This year we had over 165 children, ages 3-15 participate in the event and it couldn't have

been done without your support.

In addition to the fishing event, we provided fun games for the children younger than three and prepared almost 500 lunches. It was a wonderful day for families to be together and enjoy our beautiful city and county. **YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE** and we appreciate you!"

This letter came from Horace Johnson, Executive Director for the Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation. Mr. Johnson wrote to the following officers: **Zachary Brooks, Dana Dolen, Jeff Hall, Matthew Hartley, Stephen Jenkins, and Matthew Parmley**. He said, "Thank you for taking time from your busy training schedule to participate in the Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial service on May 22. The flag detail and 21 gun salute are important parts of what makes the service so meaningful, especially to the family and friends of the fallen officers. The foundation has received many positive comments about the ceremony from family members and other attendees.

Without your help Kentucky's fallen officers would not be honored the way they truly deserve. Again, thank you for your support."

The following note was written to the **Salato Wildlife Education Center staff**. Ms. Sally A. Miracle wrote, "On Tuesday, June 26, my family and friends were visiting your wildlife center. My daughter got into a nest of wasps in the duck blind. She was stung several times.

I want to thank the staff who helped us, from the nice lady (**Laurie Davison**) who transported us to the education building and administered both comfort and first aid, to the nice gentleman (**Brent McCarty**) who took the nest down, to all of the staff who came in and out of the office showing their concern.

This was a very scary time for both my daughter and myself, not knowing her reaction. Thanks to your staff, she was okay! She replayed the event several times that night and the next day as she processed what happened. Each time she discussed the events she always included what all of you did for her!

We have always enjoyed visiting your center. The actions of your staff have made it even better!"

NOTE: Ms. Miracle sent a gift of \$50 to the Foundation as a token of their appreciation.



Yatesville Lake WMA staff recently shared their office compound with some gray fox squatters. The family provided staff with considerable entertainment until the adults led the pups away to new digs. *Harley Weaver photo*

Carlisle County man charged with disturbing endangered least tern nests

A Carlisle County man is charged with operating his ATV inside a protected area containing federally-endangered interior least tern nests, disturbing the nests and interfering with an officer.

Conservation officers also seized the ATV from Keaton Rathermel, 20, of Bardwell, Ky., during the June 30 incident pending court action, said **Sgt. Denny Broyles** of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources.

Department officers joined with special agents from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to stake out a protected island just south of Wickliffe.

The island, a large sandbar in the Mississippi River, contains approximately 30 nesting pairs of interior least terns. Only an estimated 20,000 of these birds exist in the world; Kentucky hosts 800 to 1,000 pairs.

In Kentucky, interior least terns nest along sandbars and islands along the Ohio and Mississippi rivers from Louisville to Fulton County, said **John Brunjes**, migratory bird biologist with Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. Biologists have marked critical nesting areas with signs prohibiting visitation or vehicle use.

Interior least terns nest directly on the sand in shallow indentations. The camouflage coloration of the eggs and chicks make them difficult to see.

Officers recently set up surveillance on the island near Wickliffe due to ATV riding at the location and frequent destruction of warning signs.

On Saturday evening, June 30, Broyles said conservation officers observed Rathermel drive past a posted sign onto the

The natural camouflage of eggs and chicks makes them almost disappear on sandbars where adult terns make their nests. *John Brunjes photo*



protected island. Officers stopped Rathermel as he exited the island. Rathermel was charged with a violation of disturbing nests. Broyles said officers added a second charge of interfering with an officer, a misdemeanor, due to Rathermel's behavior and refusal to comply with an officer's request after being stopped.

Officials did not immediately determine whether any nests were destroyed during Saturday's incident. Brunjes said he has photographs taken the previous week of ATV tracks within a few feet of a nest.

"The last four nesting years have been bad ones for interior least terns because of

high river levels," Brunjes said. "This has been a good year so far. There are lots of sandbars available for nesting."

Biologists have documented and posted 18 islands this year with endangered tern nests on them. Boaters and pleasure riders should avoid all posted areas.

"We're planning to step up enforcement to help protect these areas," Broyles said. "The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is doing this as well. If someone is caught riding in a protected area, that person could face federal charges and jail time."

A July 18 court date has been set for Rathermel in Carlisle District Court.

McQuillen retires after 22 years

Long time Hunter Training Officer **Mary McQuillen** retired June 1, 2012.

Mary started working in the Hunter Education Program in December, 1989 in the central part of Kentucky. She spent 22 years administering hunter education in a 30 county area through teaching hunter education courses as well as recruiting, training, and supporting volunteer instructors.

She was an integral part of the hunter education program and enjoyed working with young students which showed while teaching her courses. She will be missed and we wish her a happy retirement.





Above left: View of the project. You can see the blue temporary bladder dams, the net KDFWR put to block fish from moving back into the site and the 2 pumps removing water from the catchment basin on the right side of this picture. Above right: Rod Middleton, Jake Murphy, Kevan Lane, Eric Armitage and 3 USACE crew members use a seine in the catchment basin to remove the residual fish. *Fred Howes photos*

Northeastern Fishery District and Minor Clark Hatchery to the rescue....

Recently, staff from the Northeastern Fishery District and Minor E. Clark Fish Hatchery helped rescue some fish from the Cave Run Tailwater.

Fred Howes, Tom Timmermann, Chad Nickell and Kevan Lane from the District and **Rod Middleton, Scott Barrett, Mike Buckler, Eric Armitage, Kenneth Pugh, Clay Johnson and Jake Murphy** from the hatchery participated.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who manage the Cave Run Lake Dam and its tailwater, had been set to perform an inspection of the catchment basin of the tailwater this summer.

This process involved putting a bladder dam across the tailwater, shutting off water flow through the main lake dam and pumping the catchment basin dry. Any fish in the basin when the water was removed would end up being stranded.

See “Rescue,” page 5



Left: Eric Armitage puts a paddlefish into the container to be removed. The 2 KDFWR crews removed almost 10 paddlefish from the catch basin between shocking and seining. Below: View of the entire catch basin. The large pipe in the center of the picture is the main flow between the Cave Run Lake and the tailwaters. The three concrete structures in the middle of the catch basin are baffles used to break up the flow coming out of the pipe. In this picture KDFWR employees are seining the basin for the remainder of the fish.



Nowak travels to Ecuador to teach aquatic education



Kristy Nowak teaches young school children how to use a microscope to identify various types of aquatic insects, and how to locate them in a stream.

Thanks to donations, including a small microscope from the **Salato Center** and department posters from the Aquatic Education Program and **Marc Johnson**, the program was educational and informative.

The microscope, an instrument many of the children had never seen before, led to the discovery of aquatic

Kristy Nowak, Environmental Biologist Specialist with the Kentucky Stream and Wetland Mitigation program (FILO), recently traveled to Ecuador through Partners of the Americas to volunteer as

an environmental educator.

By conducting seven programs in three schools located in Tena, Ecuador, Kristy raised awareness on the relationship between aquatic insects and water quality.

insects all around them. It was especially exciting when several macro invertebrates, such as water pennies, mayflies and dragonflies, were found in the local Napo River, a tributary of the Amazon River.

“Rescue,” continued

The two crews placed a large block net downstream of the bladder dam site and first used shocking boats to remove as many fish as possible. Once the pumping began, these crews then climbed into the catchment basin and waded with seines to remove any residual fish.

Some of the species “rescued” included paddlefish, bigmouth buffalo, freshwater drum, bluegill, crappie, largemouth bass, and even some real nice walleye.

The fish were put on the downstream side of the block net and were prevented from swimming back into the area that was soon to be dry. Once the inspection was completed the temporary bladder dam was removed and the tailwater opened back up.

While this was the first time this technique was used on Cave Run Lake, it has been used in other states for the same function. One of the Corps crew

commented on the willingness of KDFWR to assist with this project and save the fish, as some other agencies were not always as willing. This goes to show how KDFWR employees are always willing to assist with anything to make the fishing remain as good as possible. And with the nutrients flowing through the dam, and the congregation of the shad and minnows in this area, this fishing hotspot in Rowan and Bath counties will shortly return to normal.

Here you can see the 2 blue temporary bladder dams, in the foreground is the catchment basin, and the large steel bucket in the middle is how the fish were moved, via crane to the downstream portion behind the bladder dam. *Fred Howes photo*



“Chief Paduke” added to Kentucky Eagle Tracking website

KDFWR has attached satellite transmitters to four bald eagles.

The tracked eagles wear a 70-gram solar-powered GPS satellite transmitter, attached externally, like a backpack. Solar panels recharge the transmitter's battery which may last as long as three to five years and will not affect the bird's ability to fly, forage or breed.

The transmitter records a GPS location for each bird, once each hour. Locations are received via satellite from the transmitter every three days and automatically update on a website KDFWR has created for the public.

We recently updated our Kentucky Eagle Tracking [website](#) to include an adult bird we captured in late April.

The bird is named “Chief Paduke,” for the legendary Native American chief that Paducah was named for. We captured Chief with a rocket net at Ballard WMA.

Chief has a neat back story in that he was a survivor of a gunshot wound to his wing, surgery and rehab prior to his recapture this April. Avian biologist **Kate Heyden** banded him in 2010 after his rehabilitation and never expected to lay hands on him again.



Chief Paduke. Bryan Watts photo

Chief appears healthy today and shows no signs of his prior injury. We also know that he and his mate successfully raised two young this year.

Raptor Rehabilitation of Kentucky provided the care that resulted in Chief's release after his injury in 2010. Despite his stay in rehab, he was recaptured at the same nesting territory in 2012.

“Turner,” our young male eagle is now over two years old and has been making long distance trips almost constantly. He has visited Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin. He has flown over 8000 miles since he left his nest in 2010! There is some updated info on the website about him as well.

Please visit our eagle tracking website for the story behind each bird and up-to-date maps on their locations at fw.ky.gov/eagletrack.asp. This project was funded in part by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Special thanks to: Bryan Watts and Libby Mojica of the [Center for Conservation Biology \(CCB\)](#), Ballard WMA staff for helping with the trapping efforts, **Donna Covington**, KDFWR for managing the website, and Ray Stainfield and Bobby Cole for providing photos for the website.

Bald eagle nest tally reaches triple digits

In 1987, Kentucky celebrated the first bald eagle nest documented in the state since the 1950's. Hard to imagine since, in 2012, Kentucky can now boast the presence of 100 known nesting pairs. The remarkable recovery of this species can be largely attributed to the banning of the pesticide DDT in 1972 (US) and a nationwide re-introduction effort.

The number of bald eagle nesting territories in Kentucky has steadily increased since the 1980s. In recent years, Kentucky's population has grown at a rapid pace, with exactly 100 occupied territories document-



A view of a bald eagle nest taken during the annual helicopter survey. Ray Stainfield photo

See “Eagle,” page 7

Conservation officers rescue Knott County flash flood victim

A 14-year veteran Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources conservation officer charged into rushing Knott County flash flood waters Wednesday morning and rescued the director of the Hazard-Perry County Senior Citizens Center who had been swept away.

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Sergeant **Greg Watts** made his way across about 25 feet of raging water before reaching Kim Boggs who was clinging to a parking lot trash can anchored to a utility pole.

"The trash can and the utility pole are gone now," said Watts. "A huge sudden flow of water just washed her away. She was under the water and then managed to grab onto the trash can. I just jumped in and grabbed her."

The events played out shortly after 11 a.m., July 18. Eighty-five senior citizens from the Hazard Center were participating in a fishing outing at Four Star Village Pay Lake and Catering near Redfox, Ky.

"It started raining about 10:30, sometimes hard, but they were using their shelters and catching fish," said Watts. "We had gone back to the parking lot to get the vans."

He and another member of the center had just walked across the parking lot

on the pond's upper end when the water came.

"I've never seen it come up like that," Watts said. "It came on us like the drop of a hat."

That's when he saw Boggs get swept away. "The water just went over top of her," Watts said. "She grabbed the can and that's when I had to go in."

Conservation Officer **Steve Combs** saw the events unfold and quickly maneuvered his truck through the water, temporarily relieving Watts and Boggs from the current. The two officers loaded Boggs into the bed of the truck.

"The water was coming over the hood," said Watts. "She couldn't stand up when we got to the truck so we put her up into the bed. I held onto her and Steve drove us out," said Watts.

Boggs did not need medical attention afterwards.

Conservation Officer **William Amburgey** also helped in getting the rest of the senior citizens to safety. The flood waters left roads washed and debris cluttered. After they cleared the roads, reinforcement conservation officers and Kentucky State Police joined to get the seniors back to Hazard.



Sgt. Greg Watts



Officer Steven Combs

"Eagle," continued

ed during the spring of 2012. This is twice the number of occupied territories Kentucky harbored just five years ago and more than ever documented in history.

As a result of the rebound of this species, the bald eagle was removed from the federal list of threatened and endangered species in August of 2007. However, monitoring has continued to ensure the species does not become imperiled again. Bald eagles still remain protected by the Migrato-

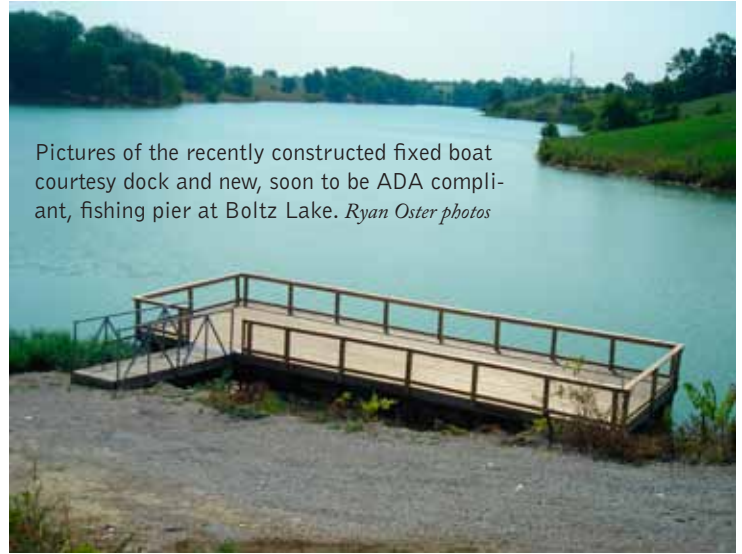
ry Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

To keep tabs on the state's nesting population, KDFWR conducts annual helicopter surveys of eagle nests in March to determine the status of known breeding territories. For most locations, nest success is determined April-July by ground, using nest observations made by KDFWR staff, other agency personnel, and volunteers. Due to the high concentration of suitable habitat, the majority of eagle nests are located in western Kentucky. Howev-

er, bald eagle nests in central and eastern Kentucky are becoming increasingly common at larger rivers and reservoirs. Monitoring data are used regionally and nationally to measure productivity trends and are reported annually by each state to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The ceiling of how many bald eagle nests Kentucky can support is not known, but there is still much suitable habitat which is unoccupied. Biologists expect the bald eagle population to continue to increase for at least several years.

Engineering improves access sites at Boltz Lake



Pictures of the recently constructed fixed boat courtesy dock and new, soon to be ADA compliant, fishing pier at Boltz Lake. *Ryan Oster photos*

Engineering Division are nearing completion of several outstanding improvements at Boltz Lake.

Improvements included a newly constructed large fishing pier. This fishing pier will ultimately be made ADA compliant in the upcoming weeks with the addition of a new concrete pad.

They also constructed a small, fixed,

courtesy boat dock that will allow anglers launching or loading their boats a safer way to tie it up while parking their vehicle.

The staff also extended the existing launching ramp. This addition of pavement will make it more accommodating to exit the boat ramp and gain access to the elevated parking area at the boat ramp.

Boltz Lake is a 92-acre, state-owned

lake in Grant County that is managed for panfish. It has a 10 HP motor restriction, and is an excellent lake to spend a quiet afternoon with the family.

Please thank the **staff with the Engineering Division** for their continued commitment to improving access to Kentucky's lakes, rivers, and reservoirs.

Fish stocking tube constructed at Fishtrap Lake Tailwater

Kevin Frey, Jason Herrala, Mark Harless and Jason Russell with the Eastern Fisheries District recently completed the construction of a new fish stocking tube at the Fishtrap Lake Tailwater.

Herbie Adams and **Tyler Ratliff** (Wildlife Division) and **Brett Salyers** (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Fishtrap Lake) also provided assistance.

This new tube will assist the Forks of Elkhorn Fish Transportation Section staff



Kevin Frey (Eastern Fisheries District Program Coordinator) inspects the recently completed fish stocking tube at Fishtrap Lake Tailwater. *Jason Herrala photo*

See “Fishtrap,” page 9



Members of the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts pose for a photo before they hike down to Chimney Top Creek to assist KDFWR Fisheries staff with the stocking of brown trout. *Fred Howes photos*



Volunteers carefully backpack fingerling brown trout down a trail to Chimney Top Creek.

Volunteers assist NEFD personnel backpack brown trout into Chimney Top Creek

On June 19, 26 volunteers assisted the Northeastern Fisheries District in backpacking approximately 500 (3-4 inch) brown trout to Chimney Top Creek, which is located in a remote section of the Red River Gorge in Wolfe County.

This stream has been stocked with browns for at least the last 20 years and as there is no road access, the only way to get fish in is via backpacking.

The hike itself lasts for about two hours with the most enjoyable portion being the first half which is all downhill

or flat. The fun begins on the way out with a 0.6 mile climb uphill. Perhaps volunteers have had so much fun hiking out in the past that they feel as if they cannot top this level of fun again because rarely do the same volunteers return.

Of the 26 volunteers helping out, several boys from Boy Scout Troop 107 and Cub Scout Pack 107 and their family members along with a former KDFWR I&E employee, Beth McDonald, took the time to drive from Franklin and Anderson

counties to participate. Another group assisting, as they have done for several years now, was several young men from the Frenchburg Youth Development Center.

On the day of the hike the air temperature was not too hot; there was little humidity and no copperheads were seen. All had a good time and their efforts were greatly appreciated by the Northern Fishery District staff.

“Fishtrap,” continued

with the stocking of rainbow trout.

Historically, the stocking of trout at the Fishtrap Lake Tailwater has been cumbersome due to a variety of reasons including locked gates, having to carry trout down in buckets to the water, and the occasional stocking truck getting stuck during the process of backing down into the tailwater area.

Staff from the Eastern Fisheries District have constructed several of these stocking tubes at various locations over the years. The stocking tubes have created a safer environment for fish transportation staff to stock fish.

Prior to these tubes, many of the stocking locations were on bridges or in areas where the main road curved creating a concern over line of sight issues. These new fish stocking tubes are located

in more convenient pull-off areas that are safer for the public and our Department staff.

The Fishtrap Lake Tailwater is stocked annually with approximately 10,000 rainbow trout during the months of April, May, June, October, and November. For more information about the put-and-take rainbow trout fishery at the Fishtrap Lake Tailwater, please feel free to contact Kevin Frey at (606) 889-1705.

Northeastern Fisheries District staff takes Girl Scouts fishing

The crew of the Northeastern Fishery District (**Fred Howes, Tom Timmermann, Kevan Lane, and Chad Nickell**) recently helped the local Girl Scouts refine some of their fishing techniques.

Girls staying at Camp Judy Lane in Menifee County were taught some basic fishing tricks including: (1) how to tie a knot; (2) baiting hooks; (3) casting; (4) fish identification; and (5) pond fishing techniques. NEFD staff also taught the young girls how to construct their own fishing tackle using items you might find in the wild. This included making their own hooks and fishing poles.

Once the girls had these techniques down they hit the water reeling in one largemouth bass after another from the small pond located on the camp grounds.

The highlight of the fishing experience was a toss up between catching a fish on a hook made out of wire on a bamboo pole or catching one of the many newts in



Fred Howes (Northeastern Fisheries District Program Coordinator) and Chad Nickell (Fisheries Technician) instruct young Girl Scouts how to construct primitive fishing tackle.

Tom Timmermann photo

the pond.

Either way the sounds of the campers squealing while they caught fish and singing

songs about catfish over the lunch table will echo through their minds and the woods of Camp Judy Lane for years to come.

They're back! Old nature plates get new look, new chance

By Charlie Baglan

One day, these new Kentucky nature plates will hang on rusty nails as conversation pieces. Till then, they have many miles ahead of them.

The Bobcat, Cardinal and Viceroy Butterfly license plates might look familiar. They were popular a decade ago and are now back and revamped for another spin. Why the change? In 1995, nature plates were the first specialty plates. Today, there are dozens with about 110 Kentucky

plates in all. To stay visible, the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund board voted to bring back what had proven to be the most successful in the series.

By success, we point to 77,000 acres of forest, fields and buffer areas the fund has protected so far. These nature plate properties dot 62 counties, with more in the making. The tracts belong to the people of the commonwealth for recreation, education and delicate species protection. Find details at HeritageLand.ky.gov.

100% of the nature plate proceeds

goes toward nature plate properties. 10% is apportioned to Kentucky Fish & Wildlife. This serves as our federal match for land acquisitions. Often, this means purchase is done without license-dollar impact.

Meanwhile, dust off a nail for the replaced plates - Cumberland Falls, dragonflies and hummingbird. As they expire, we'll see fewer and fewer on the road, though the work they did goes on forever. But that's the funny thing about nature plates, it's not really about the road, but where it ends.





Fish and Wildlife Commission Chairman Steve Glenn spoke during the dedication ceremony as members of American Legion Post 24 Honor Guard lined up behind him.

“WMA,” continued

several names – the old Hall Farm, the Be-luga Property and more recently as simply Rogers Gap. The area lies north of Rogers Gap Road and east of Interstate 75 to its intersection with U.S. 25.

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife completed a decade-long effort to acquire the 2,500-acre property near Georgetown in December 2011.

“Obtaining this property for the people of Kentucky to enjoy was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity,” said Gassett. “Find-

ing undeveloped properties of this size in the most populous region of Kentucky is almost impossible. This unique area puts quality wildlife-related recreation literally on doorsteps for millions of Kentucky residents.”

The department used \$3.25 million from Kentucky’s Wetlands and Stream Mitigation Fund – which is managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Kentucky Division of Water – for some of the land purchase and to pay for the restoration of 19

miles of streams and associated headwaters.

The department also added \$3 million in federal grant money specifically designated for fish and wildlife land acquisition. No state tax revenues or Kentucky Fish and Game Fund dollars were used.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife oversees 84 other wildlife management areas around the state, totaling 536,000 acres. Kentucky has 110 public hunting areas totaling 1.55 million acres, including land managed by numerous agencies, such as the Daniel Boone National Forest.

The Veterans Memorial WMA is located approximately 3 miles north of Georgetown and 2 miles south of Sadieville, adjacent to I-75 between Exit 129 south and Exit 136 north.

From Exit 129, go west on Cherry Blossom Way (KY 620) approximately ½ mile to U.S. 25. Turn right (north) on U.S. 25 approximately 1.7 miles to Rogers Gap Road (KY 620) and turn right (east). After crossing under the I-75 overpass, look for signs and the parking on the left.

GPS coordinates to the entrance are 38.302022, -84.557736.



Joining Commissioner Jon Gassett in unveiling the new WMA sign were Rep. Ryan Quarles, Congressman Ben Chandler, State Senator Damon Thayer, Lt. Gov. Jerry Abramson, Scott County Judge-Executive George Lusby and Georgetown Mayor Everett Varney. Above right: Deputy Commissioner Benjy Kinman spoke with Lt. Gov. Jerry Abramson as conservation officers David Marques and Rufus Cravens looked on.